

REMARKS

Claims 17-47 are now presented for examination. Claims 27, 28, 31 and 33 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 20-24 and 34-47 have been allowed.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Kudaravalli, et al. (U.S. 6,471,694) reference presented as a prior art reference in the Office Action mailed on 10/20/2006 is withdrawn.

On page 2 of the Office Action, drawings 5-11 are considered informal and new replacement drawings would be required before issue. In a telephone call with the Examiner on June 27, 2007, the Examiner instructed Applicants to disregard this objection as it was an inadvertent entry.

On page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of Claim 16 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,635,053. Applicants have herein filed a terminal disclaimer to obviate such rejection.

On page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 25 and 26 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,635,053. Applicants have herein filed a terminal disclaimer to obviate such rejection.

On the “Office Action Summary” page of the Office Action, Claims 27-33 are noted as being “objected to.” Although not mentioned in the body of the Office Action, in a telephone call with the Examiner on June 27, 2007, the Examiner stated that these claims will be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The claims have been rewritten in independent form, and are thus believed to be allowable.

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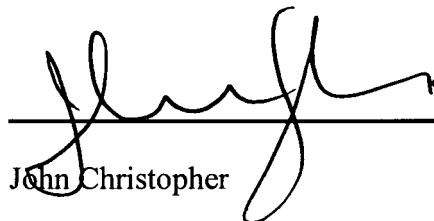
For all of the above reasons, the claim objections are believed to have been overcome placing Claims 17-47 in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



John Christopher

Reg. No.: 37,596  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Christopher & Weisberg, P.A.  
200 East Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 2040  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
**Customer No. 31292**  
Tel: (954) 828-1488  
Fax: (954) 828-9122

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